Message Text

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAU PFOR OCON (M'BOUMOUA, WILLIAM ETEKI) SUBJECT: ETEKI SEEN FIDDLING WHILE ANGOLA BURNS

1. DEPT. WILL HAVE SEEN REUTERS REPORT OF OAU PRESIDENT IDI AMIN'S OCT. 24 ATTACK UPON OAU ADMIN SECGEN WILLIAM ETEKI M'BOUMOUA'S PERFORMANCE, WHICH ALSO FEATURED IN OCT. 26 ADDIS PRESS.

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2. MARSHAL AMIN'S BLAST REFLECTIVE OF WIDESPREAD CRITI-

CISM OF ETEKI INTER ALIA FOR HIS RECENT SOJOURN IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON. IN AFRICA DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND OAU SECRETARIAT CIRCLES HERE, VIEW THUS WIDESPREAD THAT OAU ADMIN SECGEN SHOULD HAVE BEEN DEVOTING ALL OF HIS TIME CLOSER TO HOME TO SEARCH FOR WAY OUT OF ANGOLAN TRAGEDY. CRITICS POINT OUT THAT ANGOLAN SITUATION PITTING AFRICANS AGAINST EACH OTHER; THREATENS OVER DEEPER IN-VOLVEMENT NEIGHBORING AFRICAN STATES IN THE AFFAIRS OF THIS TERRITORY: COMPORTS GROWING RISKS OF EXTRA CON-TINENTAL INTERVENTION; EXPANSION OF SOUTH AFRICAN AMBIT AND OF COURSE INTERNAL FRAGMENTATION OF ANGOLA ON EVE OF ITS INDEPDENCE. IN SHORT, THERE IS VIRTUAL UNANIMITY OF VIEW THAT ANGOLAN IMBROGLIO FESTERING AT ROOTS AFRICAN UNITY WHICH IS OAU'S RAISON D'ETRE AND THAT IT THEREFORE POSES INESCAPABLE CHALLENGE TO OAU STATECRAFT, CHALLENGE UPON WHICH ETEKI SEEMINGLY HAS LONG BEEN TURNING HIS BACK.

- 3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ETEKI'S DEPARTURE OCT. 25 TO ATTEND ACCRA OAU/UNESCO SPONSORED CULTURAL CONFERENCE ACCORDING-LY RECEIVED IN THESE OUARTERS WITH STUNNED DISBELIEF. ACTIVITIES OF OAU A/ADMIN SECGENS DJOUDI AND KAMANDA, WHO HAVE ALLEGEDLY BEEN WORKING TO ADVANCE IDI AMIN'S INITIATIVES HOPEFULLY INTENDED TO BRING WARRING ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TOGETHER, CLEARLY NO RPT NO SUBSTI-TUTE IN AFRICAN EYES FOR PERSONAL EFFORTS OF OAU ADMIN SECGEN TO DEAL WITH ISSUE TO EXTENT POSSIBLE. THIS LIKELY PRIMARILY SO BECAUSE KAMANDA AND DJOUDI WIDELY KNOWN TO BE IN FIRST INSTANCE RESPONSIVE TO INTERESTS ZAIROIS AND ALGERIAN GOVERNMENTS, RESPECTIVE-LY. IN SUMMARY, WHILE NO ONE HARBORS ILLUSIONS ON CAPABILITY OF OAU OUICKLY TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS WHICH GIVING RISE TO ANGOLAN WAREFARE, IT WIDELY HELD THAT OAU SHOULD NEVERTHELESS BE SEEN TO BE DOING ITS BEST.
- 4. AMIN'S LATEST INITIATIVE IS YET ANOTHER KAMPALA ANGOLAN CONCILIATION MEETING CONVENING NOV. 1 WITH PARTICIPATION OF ALL OAU VICE PRESIDENTS. WE HEAR THAT ETEKI HAS NOW LEFT ACCRA AND IS DUE IN KAMPALA TODAY (OCT. 29.) QUITE POSSIBLY HE IS THUS RESPONDING INTER ALIA TO THE SENTIMENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE. BE THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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AS IT MAY, WE CONSIDER AS OF NW THAT ETEKI'S PERFORMANCE THUS FAR IN THE FACE OF THE STEADILY DETERIORATING ANGOLAN SITUATION--WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL GET WORSE BEFORE IT GETS BETTER--HAS, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, LIKELY DAMAGED HIS STANDING IN EYES MANY AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AND THUS PROMISES FURTHER TO IMPAIR HIS EFFECTIVENESS. RESULT, PARTICULARLY DURING AMIN OAU PRESIDENCY, BOUND ADD TO PROBLEMS OF AN ORGANIZATION

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